

Meeting May 21 2012

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:10pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and there was a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Bauer directed Borough Manager Landy to take roll. Councilmen Beranek, McCloy, McFeaters, Tate and Councilwoman Ruszkowski and Stevenson were present. Mayor Lucia was present and Solicitor Wolfe was absent. President Bauer stated we have a quorum.

Reading of the Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to dispense with the reading of the minutes of May 7, 2012 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Comment:

Robert and Donna Beck, owners of property at 100 W Main Street Mount Pleasant, spoke to Council about their wish to donate this property to the Borough of Mount Pleasant. Mr. Beck said he spoke earlier with Borough Manager Landy about donating the property so that the Borough could demolish the building and build a small parklet and parking lot on the site. The taxes on the property are paid up-to-date and there are no liens on the property. Mr. Beck said he would need a little time to close his business that is located in the building and to move his belongings. President Bauer said that Council has been looking for ways to improve that area of the Borough and this donation will help a great deal. Mr. Landy suggested a bench in the proposed parklet with a plaque honoring the donation. Mrs. Beck said they would like to see the Borough take possession of the property by the end of June 2012.

Michael Tabita, Eagle Street Mount Pleasant, spoke to Council about the Braddock Road Trail. Mr. Tabita showed Council a sample of a sign that is being used to mark the trail and asked if there is any interest in signing the trail in the Borough. Mr. Tabita said that by marking the trail in the Borough it would help to increase tourism. The Borough would require 7 to 10 signs to mark the trail through town. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the cost of each sign would be \$55 and the poles are not included in that cost. Councilwoman Stevenson said that the Historical Society received a grant to publish a brochure on the trail, but the signs would have to be in place for visitors to follow the trail through the Borough.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to suspend the rules for the purpose of purchasing trail signs. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to purchase signs to mark the Braddock Road Trail through the Borough. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia said he looked at rental inspections for the last ten years. The Borough has over 700 registered units since we adopted the Rental Registration Ordinance. Rental inspections have been required by ordinance since 1975 and up until the Rental Registration Ordinance there were no more than 25 inspections done each year. So either tenants were not moving in and out or landlords were not getting their rental properties inspected.

Mayor Lucia stressed to citizens of the Borough that they should keep the doors locked on their homes and vehicles and keep their eyes open for any suspicious behavior. If someone sees something that is outside the normal, they should call the police.

Councilman McFeaters asked Mayor Lucia if the protestors that were scheduled to be in the Borough at PNC Bank ever showed up. Mayor Lucia said that the protestors did show up outside the PNC Bank on Main Street in Mount Pleasant and used chalk to write on the PNC building and the sidewalk in front of the building. Our Police Department asked them to disband and they went peacefully. Before they were even gone, PNC Bank had people there cleaning the chalk from the building and the sidewalk.

Solicitor's Report: None

Borough Manager Landy said that the Borough received a final settlement on the taxes for Independence and Greenwood Apartments in the Borough. These properties applied for a tax reassessment. Attorneys representing the Borough, the School District and the County negotiated a settlement that goes back for 5 years. Council will get a copy of the amount of the settlement and will have to make a motion at the next meeting to satisfy the settlement. Money to pay the settlement will have to come from Budgetary Reserve.

Tax Collector Yancosky said that with these reassessments and others that have been approved the Borough's tax income is going decrease again. Ms. Yancosky said that Council should look at increasing the millage rate by 1/2% so that it is not necessary to vote for a bigger increase in the future.

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2012:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report

Apr-12

		Previous Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	Balance 2012
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	65,794.00	339,442.08	227,399.08	177,837.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	545,486.68	125,710.25	77,230.83	593,966.10
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	PNC 102-457-4388	63,235.14	8.04	0.00	63,243.18
**Fire		30,000.00			
**Police		0.00			
**Streets		10,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		23,243.18			
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	412,569.06	67.82	0.00	412,636.88
**Police		60,000.00			
**Streets		80,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		96,048.67			
**Infrastructure		90,000.00			
**BOMP1 Gas Well		9,250.00			
**BOMP2 Gas Well		4,572.81			
**Frick Park Gas Well		19,423.96			
**Levins		7,760.06			
**Surveillance Cameras		9,000.00			
**Surveillance Camera Grant		10,000.00			
**Early Warning Siren Grant		8,000.00			
**Fire		10,000.00			
**K-9		8,581.38			
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	110,436.79	4.05	0.00	110,440.84
Monument CD	Standard Bank 328188	6,023.34	0.00	0.00	6,023.34
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,801.16	0.08	0.00	1,801.24
Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	1,422.55	58,822.06	58,806.51	1,438.10
Veterans Park Fund	First Niagara 981293700	4,599.99	0.00	0.00	4,599.99
Veterans Park Fund	PLGIT 5698025	11,260.47	0.41	0.00	11,260.88
Police Drug Enforcement	PNC 10-1291-2642	850.50	0.00	0.00	850.50
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	613.06	0.03	0.00	613.09
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	101,658.26	25,766.85	17,532.26	109,892.85
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	94,551.14	1,669.71	0.00	96,220.85
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3388-4556	25,739.21	0.00	0.00	25,739.21
Total General Fund Balance					1,616,564.05
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	233,128.70	85,054.87	35,201.76	282,981.81
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	59,229.85	9.74	0.00	59,239.59
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	147,806.47	24.29	0.00	147,830.76
**Contingency		87,830.76			
**Infrastructure		60,000.00			
Total WWT Balance					490,052.16
Total Borough funds					2,106,616.21

Respectfully Submitted:
 Councilwoman Susan Ruszkowski
 Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilwoman Stevenson to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 7-0.

President's Report:

President Bauer said he met with Laurel Highlands Fence Company regarding the fence for Satcho's Park. Laurel Highlands Fence Company presented the lowest quote for the job. There was more vandalism at the park over this past weekend and hopefully the fence will help.

President Bauer said he received a resignation letter from Councilman Frank Crivella effective immediately. The letter stated that his resignation is due to increased business demands coupled with health issues. Mr. Crivella stated in his letter that he hopes Council can find an open-minded, energetic person without any kind of personal agenda to take his place.

A motion was made by Councilman McCloy to accept Councilman Crivella's resignation as Third Ward Councilman effective immediately. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 7-0.

President Bauer said that letters of interest will be accepted to fill the 3rd Ward council set until 4:00pm June 1, 2012 and hopefully interviews can take place on June 4, 2012.

President Bauer brought up the subject of Satcho's Park and a discussion ensued regarding the performance of Silvis Group.

Manager's Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that Council has received a sample of a sump pump ordinance and should include it with the other ordinance updates being done.

Mr. Landy reported that Patrolman George Grippo and K-9 Gerro have completed training in Obedience, Article Search, Area Search, Tracking, Building Search and Aggression Control.

Mr. Landy said that Concerts In The Park begin on June 3rd and Council has been provided with a schedule of the concerts.

Mr. Landy said that Council has been provided with a schedule of insurance coverage for the Borough Boards and Authorities. Mr. Landy said that Council needs to make a decision so that the Boards and Authorities know what they are covered for and what they are not covered for.

Mr. Landy said he received a copy of the trail easement agreement from the Coal and Coke Trail and he will send it to Solicitor Wolfe for his review. The easement allows the trail to go from Shop Demo Depot to Main Street.

Public Works Report:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to award the Rumbaugh Paving Bid to A Folino in the amount Of \$16,068.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilman Tate said that he spoke to Mark Cummings from the United Steel Workers Union about Daniel Dean from our Street Department being out on medical leave and was told that the Borough can hire a seasonal or temporary employee to cover for Dan. Mr. Cummings also said that Street Supervisor Mario Fontanazza is also allowed to do whatever work is necessary while the department is short-handed.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to advertise for seasonal employee for the Mount Pleasant Borough Street Department. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Safety Report:

Councilman Beranek said that Medic 10 has requested authorization to purchase a small SUV for the department. The vehicle would be used to make short trips not requiring an ambulance. It would save on gas and maintenance on the ambulances.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to suspend the rules for the purpose of authorizing the purchase of a vehicle for Medic 10. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Beranek to purchase a 2005 Chevy Trailblazer in the amount of \$5,500 with a tow package and 111,000 miles on it from G&H Automotive in Mount Pleasant PA for Medic 10. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 7-0.

President Bauer said that Officer George Grippo has been unable to handle code enforcement in the Borough and it may be beneficial to use Health Officer Rita Borenstein as the Borough's Code Enforcement Officer. A discussion ensued and Council agreed to use Ms. Borenstein as the Borough's Code Enforcement Officer to begin immediately. Mr. Landy said that Ms. Borenstein has asked for some form of identification from the Borough so that she can identify herself to property owners.

Zoning and Ordinance Report: None

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Councilman McFeaters said that this Thursday he is meeting with KU Resources regarding the borough property on Bridgeport Street and how they can help with development of the property.

Councilman McFeaters said that the Mount Pleasant BDA meets every third Wednesday at 7:30pm. He said that may present a conflict with his schedule and he will discuss it further with President Bauer.

Veterans Park Report: None

Parks & Recreation:

President Bauer said that he will handle Parks & Recreation until another council person is appointed.

Finance Report: None

Property Report:

Councilwoman Stevenson said that she and Councilman Pritts met with two different landscaping companies to discuss the Municipal Building. Councilwoman Stevenson said that after the discussion the companies said they would come back with revised quotes.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to authorize Joe Siska to replace the conduit on the west side and the front of the Municipal Building because it is causing water damage in the Police Department. The cost of the repairs will not exceed \$750. Motion seconded by Councilman Beranek. Motion carried 7-0.

Sanitation & Recycling Report:

Councilman Stevenson said that she will work with Councilman McCloy on the community yard sale in 2013. This year we didn't have a map and a lot of people were asking for them. Next year the yard sale will be held on the second Saturday in May.

Councilwoman Stevenson thanked Mayor Lucia and Borough Manager Landy for having her on the radio show. She got a chance to inform people about the Cat Committee and what it has accomplished. President Bauer said that there a problem with stray cats in his neighborhood and Councilwoman Stevenson said that if she is given an address she will see that traps are set in that area.

New Business:

President Bauer announced that Memorial Day ceremonies will begin with the parade at 10:30am followed by a ceremony at Veterans Park at 11:00am.

President read a letter from Councilman Beranek stating that he is resigning as Second Ward Councilman effective immediately.

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to accept Albert Beranek's resignation as Second Ward Councilman effective immediately. Motion seconded Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 6-0.

President Bauer said that letters of interest for the Second Ward Council seat will be accepted at the borough office until 4:00pm on June 1, 2012 and hopefully interviews can be conducted on June 4, 2012.

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Dr. Keeler wrote a letter thanking Council for the citation for Citizen of the Year.
- Home Serve sent a letter stating that they will be sending a mailer to borough residents regarding their services.
- The Mount Pleasant Historical Society sent a request for a donation to the Mount Pleasant Community Picnic in July.
- The Senior Center sent a letter requesting that we trim a tree at Veterans Park that is blocking their sign.
- Robert Chapo from North Huntingdon sent a letter requesting that Council consider him for a position as Building Code Official.
- Westmoreland County Boroughs Association will hold its monthly meeting at the Westmoreland Conservation District Office at 218 Donohoe Road Greensburg on May 24th at 7:00pm.

Discussion and Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 6-0.

Miscellaneous and Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Tate to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned 8:39pm

Motions from May 21, 2012 Meeting

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